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## ENDORSEMENT IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 236 HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES – ACTIVE MILITARY, FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR, RECIPIENTS OF THE PURPLE HEART AWARD, AND DISABLED VETERANS

Chairman Barve and distinguished members of the House of Delegate's Environment and Transportation Committee,

The American Legion Department of Maryland whose membership exceeds 48,000 in Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City strongly endorse House Bill 236 through this letter of endorsement. It is our position that HB 236 provides a viable means of recreation for military members and especially those who have given more than their share to the protection of our nation.

We fervently believe this measure not only brings welcomed recreation to our veteran service personnel but in many aspects hunting and fishing provides meaningful therapy to those who may desperately need this sporting outlet.

This bill also recognizes the pain—both physical and emotion--and sacrifice these active duty members and veterans who went through the terrible trauma only wars and conflicts produce.

As a special recognition for those who suffered greatly The American Legion prays you will render a positive report on House Bill 236 and we commend Delegate Carey for his exemplary compassion for our military warriors—past and present. Thank you.

Respectfully, yours

Patrick Guibao

Patrick J. Guibao Chair THE AMERICAN LEGION Department of Maryland Legislative Commission